

AT 2036.00

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on <u>January 17, 2003</u>

Reggy Vichols

Name: Peggy Nichols

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application for:

Thomas A. Silvestrini

Serial No.: 09/993,946

Filing Date: December 18, 1997

For: CORNEAL IMPLANT METHOD AND

PLIABLE IMPLANT THEREFOR

Examiner: D. Willse

Group Art Unit: 3738

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION FILED IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUING EXAMINATION

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2001, issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the Office Action originally was due March 18, 2002. On June 18, 2002, a Notice of Appeal and Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time was filed, thereby extending the deadline to file a Brief on Appeal or take other action to August 18, 2002. This deadline is extendible up to January 18, 2003, upon petition and payment of a five month extension fee. Enclosed herewith is the Petition for a Five